FOR MYSORE STATE

I-27—40,006—27-10-52.

Food & Agri. (1949) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 1199

1199

Dated 19 x 49

[Despatch Abstract.]

AGRICULTURE : LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTION : RESEARCH : ELCTRO-CULTURE EXPERIMENTS : UNAUTHORISED REPORT GIVEN BY THE SPECIAL OFFICER REGARDING THE RESULTS OF ELCTRO-CULTURE EXPERIMENTS : PAPERS : RECORDED.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Publication in the Press of the report on "Electro-culture" by the Special Officer for Electro-culture.

*79, QUESTION: ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state -

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Report with bold headlines that appeared in the issue of the "Mail" dated Tuesday, June 21, 1949, on "Madras Experiment to increase paddy yield. Application of electro-culture";

(b) if so, whether the report was published with the previous knowledge and consent of the Government; and

(c) whether the Special Electro-culture Officer of the Government had any instructions from or consulted the Government in the matter of the publication of such a report in the Press?

THE HON. SRI A.B. SHETTY: (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The publication of the report was not authorised by the Government.

(c) The Special Officer had no such instructions."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB: May I ask what action the Government propose to take against the officer for having acted without the permissio of the Government?

THE HON. SRI ABB. SHETTY: "A warning has been given to him."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: May I ask, Sir, whether this warning will be sufficient and he will desist from carrying on this propaganda on behalf of his pet theories?

THE HON. SRI A.B. SHETTY: It is considered sufficient ~~fro~~ for the present.

Cutting from the "Mail" dated the 21st June 1949.

MADRAS EXPERMIMENT TO INCREASE ~~PADDY-YELD~~ PADDY YIELD.

Application of electro-Culture.

Madras, June 20.

An expermiment to increase the per acregae paddy-yield, by the application of electro-culture methods, is well under way in a hamlet near Madras City.

It is claimed by exploitation of the elctro-c lture technique, the paddy yield could be increase by 35 per cent or, at any rate, the food deficit of the country wiped out compmeteply.

The experiment is being conducted at the Rice Reserah Station at TIRURKUPPAM, 70 miles from here by Mr. A.R. Srinivasa Rao, Special Electro-Culture Officer, Madras Government.

A paddy nursery over an area of 15 cents nnder electro-culture treatment has been raised ~~in the usu~~ at the reserach station. Another nursery has been raised under the usual method for the purpose of a comparative study.

It was found there that thile the paddy plant, raised in the usual method was emaciated, tip-dried and broken-leaved the plant raised by the elector-culture method was rich-green, virile and had well-formed leaves.

"This marks a good beginning", the Special Officer said, "and these will definitely develop into a healtheir crop yielding more grain."

The principle underlying the electro-culture method, according to the official is that wherever electricity is applied to plants, greater cellular activity is promoted, resulting in a better standard of plant.

The electro-culture process is simple, and does not require any costly machinery. The seeds are first soaked for 36 hours in water sparked by a "magneto" under a voltage of 10,000. The germinated seedlings are then sown, and watered. The water on the field in its four corners is again sparked for durations of half-a-minute by the "magneto". The seedlings are then allowed to forw. The plant raised thus is stated to be pest-proof.

"The electro-culture methods of cultivation was first tried a decade ago in the United Provinces by the then Land Revenue Commissioner, Dr. S.S. Nehru. For want of Government encouragement, the experiment was not continued. Subsquently, certain owenrs of private orchards in the North-Western Frontier Province introduced the method with good results. It is claimed that the fruit produced by electro-culture application in the N.W. Frontier Province are wholesome, and very lucious.

It is learned officially that if the present experiment at Tirur Kuppam results in substantial increase in paddy yield, the Madras Government may undertake a three-year scheme to introduce the electro-culture process on a wider basis in some selected agricultural farm in the Province.

NOTE:

Legislative Assembly Question at page 1 c.f. has been answered - vide extracts at page 5 c.f. The papers may now be recorded.

xx/16.X.49

G.O. (Ms) No. 1199 F.&.A. dated 19th October 1949.

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Abstract.

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/True copy/

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